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XII.—*On a Collection of Birds from the Neighbourhood of Port St. Johns, in Pondoland.* By GUY C. SHORTRIDGE. *With a Preface and Notes by W. L. SCLATER, Director of the South African Museum.*

[So far as I am aware, no collections have hitherto been made in the district of Pondoland, which forms the most easterly portion of Cape Colony, and adjoins Natal.

At my suggestion, therefore, Mr. Guy Shortridge proceeded to Port St. Johns, which is situated at the mouth of the St. Johns River, and spent the greater part of a year there, making, on behalf of the South African Museum, extensive collections in Natural History, chiefly of birds and mammals, which have now reached us safely. Very few lists of birds from the different parts of South Africa have hitherto been published, so that our knowledge of the local distribution of species in this wide area is still very incomplete. I have therefore thought that it might be useful to give a full list of the birds obtained and observed on this occasion, together with certain details and the remarks of the collector.

As would naturally be expected, the avifauna of Pondoland shews considerable resemblance to that of Natal, and Mr. Shortridge has been so fortunate as to obtain examples of seven species hitherto unrecorded from Cape Colony :

these are *Phyllostrephus flavo-striatus*, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, *Muscicapa cærulescens*, *Dicrurus ludvigi*, *Thripis namaquus*, *Cuculus canorus*, and *Ardetta minuta*. Of these seven birds, the European Cuckoo and the Little Bittern had not been previously recorded south of Potchefstroom, though the other five were known to occur in Natal or Zululand.

The present list contains the names of nearly two hundred species. Examples of one hundred and seventy of these were obtained, and are now deposited in the South African Museum; while of about thirty others, chiefly large and conspicuous birds, specimens were not preserved. The latter are marked in the list with an asterisk.

The arrangement and nomenclature of this list are those of the "Birds" of the 'Fauna of South Africa,' so far as it is completed. In the remaining families the references are to Sharpe and Layard's 'Birds of South Africa,' unless some other authority is stated.—W. L. S.]

1. *CORVULTUR ALBICOLLIS* Lath.; Stark, i. p. 10.

(1) 1.9.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; legs black; bill black, tipped with white. In the stomach, egg-shells, animal fur, mealies and other vegetable matter.

(2) 1.9.02. ♀. In the stomach, a small rat and mealies.

A very common resident, generally seen by day in pairs, which gather together in flocks towards the evening, and roost among the rocks.

2. **CORVUS SCAPULATUS* Daud.; Stark, i. p. 12.

Rare at Port St. Johns; only an occasional pair being seen, often in company with *Corvultur albicollis*.

3. *CORVUS CAPENSIS* Licht.; Stark, i. p. 14.

(1) 11.1.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs black. In the stomach, mealies and insects.

This Crow is fairly plentiful a few miles inland, generally living in pairs, but sometimes assembling in small flocks of four or five individuals, and frequenting cultivated lands. It nests singly in low trees on the borders of woods.

4. *AMYDRUS MORIO* (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 26.

(1) 24.11.01. ♂. Iris hazel; bill black; legs black.

In the stomach, Cape gooseberries and wild figs.

Resident and very common; gregarious, except in the breeding-season, when it nests among the rocks.

The iris of the adult male is dark red.

5. *LAMPROCOLIUS PHENICOPTERUS* (Swains.); Stark, i. p. 38.

(1) 25.11.01. ♂. Iris orange; legs black; bill black.

In the stomach, wild berries.

This bird is fairly plentiful at certain times of year. It is gregarious, forming small flocks of about ten members, and frequenting the scrubby bush.

6. *LAMPROCOLIUS MELANOGASTER* (Swains.); Stark, i. p. 42.

(1) 20.12.01. ♀. Iris orange; legs black; bill black.

In the stomach, wild figs and coleoptera.

(2) 11.1.02. ♂.

(3) 23.7.02. ♀. Iris orange-yellow. In the stomach, berries.

This is a very common bird, often flying about in flocks of some hundreds, and frequenting the thick forests and open country.

The colour of the iris differs according to the age of the individual, varying from hazel to pale green or orange.

7. *ORIOIUS LARVATUS* Licht.; Stark, i. p. 51.

(1) 17.11.01. ♀. Iris crimson; bill flesh-coloured; legs blue-grey. In the stomach, orthoptera and wild figs.

(2) 22.12.01. ♀.

A common bird, keeping in pairs throughout the year. It is often seen in company with or following flocks of *Lamprocolius melanogaster*. It feeds among the high trees.

8. *HYPHANTORNIS SPILONOTUS* (Vigors); Stark, i. p. 60.

(1) 28.8.02. ♂. Iris orange-red; bill black; legs brownish pink. In the stomach, mealies.

(2) 17.9.02. ♀. Iris hazel; legs light brown; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower brown.

Very common and gregarious, frequenting the reeds on the rivers during the winter.

9. *HYPHANTORNIS SUDAUREUS* (Smith) ; Stark, i. p. 63.

- (1) 22.11.01. ♂. Iris red ; legs flesh-coloured ; bill black. In the stomach, mealies and seeds.
- (2) 22.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel ; bill flesh-coloured, upper mandible tipped with black.
- (3) 27.2.02. Iris hazel ; bill and legs light brown.
- (4) 8.8.02. ♂. Iris orange-red.

This is a fairly plentiful resident, which is more or less gregarious and nests among the reeds on the banks of the rivers. The female has not been correctly described by Stark. It is entirely of a dull greenish yellow, except on the breast, which in some cases is almost as bright yellow as in the male. In the female the back is streaked with dusky brown ; in the male the back is bright greenish yellow and the crown bright yellow.

10. *SITAGRA OCLARIA* (Smith) ; Stark, i. p. 66.

- (1) 20.4.02. ♀. Iris reddish white ; bill black ; legs light slaty blue. In the stomach, insects.
- (2) 30.4.02. ♂.

Fairly plentiful, taking the place of *Sycobrotus bicolor* in the scrubby bush-country ; resident and still more plentiful during the brooding-season. The nest and eggs of this bird were obtained.

11. *SITAGRA CAPENSIS CAFFRA* (Licht.) ; Stark, i. p. 70.

- (1) 11.1.02. ♀. Iris red ; bill dark slate-coloured ; legs flesh-coloured. In the stomach, insects.
- (2) 6.11.02. ♀. Bill slaty black. In the stomach, coleoptera.

This Weaver-bird seemed to be fairly plentiful. The first specimen was shot in company with a small flock of *Hypphantornis spilometus*. The second was obtained in mimosa-scrub during the nesting-season, when the birds were observed in pairs.

12. *SYCOBROTUS BICOLOR* (Vieill.) ; Stark, i. p. 72.

- (1) 20.11.01. ♀. Iris brown ; bill slaty blue ; legs light slaty blue. In the stomach, insects.

Resident and very common in the thick bush, keeping in pairs throughout the year.

13. *AMBLYOSPIZA ALBIFRONS* (Vigors) ; Stark, i. p. 80.

(1) 19.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel ; bill black ; legs black.

In the stomach, insects and seeds.

(2) 21.12.01. ♀. Bill dull yellow, upper ridge brown, tipped with black.

(3) 19.3.02. Jr. Legs light slaty blue.

(4) 19.10.02. ♂. Legs brown. In the stomach, Kaffir corn.

Resident and plentiful in damp localities, where it nests among the reeds on the banks of the rivers. The nest and eggs were obtained in December.

14. *LAGONOSTICTA RUBRICATA* (Licht.) ; Stark, i. p. 92.

(1) 1.5.02. ♂. Iris black ; legs slate-brown ; bill with the upper mandible slate-black, the lower light slate-coloured, pink underneath. In the stomach, seeds.

Fairly common, but seemingly more plentiful during the winter months. It frequents thick undergrowth and long grass, and is more or less social in its habits, though it never flies about in flocks like *Estrilda astrilda*.

15. *ESTRILDA ASTRILDA* (Linn.) ; Stark, i. p. 98.

(1) 21.1.02. ♀. Iris brown ; bill red ; legs dark brown.

In the stomach, small seeds.

Common and gregarious, frequenting the open grass-country.

16. *ESTRILDA DUFRESNII* (Vieill.) ; Stark, i. p. 107.

(1) 7.5.02. Iris hazel ; legs black ; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower red.

Resident, but not plentiful, found in pairs. After the nesting-season is over the young birds collect in small flocks, and frequent the scrubby bush and long grass.

17. *SPERMESTES SCUTATUS* (Heuglin) ; Stark, i. p. 112.

(1) 26.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel ; legs black ; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower slate-blue. In the stomach, seeds.

- (2) 12.5.02. Jr. Legs dark slate-coloured; bill slate-brown. .

A common resident, gregarious and frequenting the open country. Eggs were obtained.

18. *PYROMELÆNA ORYX (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 126.
Very rare at Port St. Johns.

19. UROBRACHYA AXILLARIS (Smith); Stark, i. p. 134.

(1) 21.11.01. ♂. Bill blue-grey; legs black; iris dark brown. In the stomach, grain and seeds.

(2) 24.11.01. ♀. Bill flesh-coloured; legs flesh-coloured.

(3) 4.6.02. ♂ (winter plumage). Iris brown; legs brown.

A very common resident, which is gregarious and frequents open swampy country and reeds on the banks of rivers.

20. COLIOPASSER ARDENS (Bodd.); Stark, i. p. 142.

(1) 30.11.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs black. In the stomach, small seeds.

(2) 14.12.01. ♂.

This bird is not plentiful; it frequents swampy localities.

21. VIDUA PRINCIPALIS (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 145.

(1) 4.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel; bill pink; legs black. In the stomach, small seeds.

(2) 11.12.01. Jr. Bill black; legs brown.

Resident and fairly plentiful on the open flats. Polygamous.

22. POLIOSPIZA GULARIS (Smith); Stark, i. p. 165.

(1) 1.5.02. Iris hazel; bill light brown; legs brown.

(2) 21.7.02. ♀.

Resident, but not plentiful; sometimes met with in small flocks in company with *Serinus sulphuratus*.

23. SERINUS SULPHURATUS (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 169.

(1) 27.2.02. ♂. Iris brown; bill light brown; legs dark brown. In the stomach, grass and seeds.

(2) 4.3.02. ♂.

Resident and fairly plentiful; more or less gregarious. It frequents the open bush-country.

24. *SERINUS ICTERUS* (Bonn.); Stark, i. p. 173.

- (1) 4.12.02. ♀. Iris dark brown; legs flesh-coloured; upper mandible dark slate-coloured, lower light slate-coloured.

This is a very common bird, often found in flocks, and feeding in the old mealie-gardens. A nest and eggs were obtained in November.

25. *SERINUS SCOTORS* (Sundev.); Stark, i. p. 177.

- (1) 17.1.02. ♂. Iris hazel; legs brown; bill brown, darker above. In the stomach, small seeds.

Resident and very common, frequenting higher trees than *S. icterus*. It is gregarious during the winter months, when the flocks resort to the tops of the hills.

26. *MACRONYX CAPENSIS* (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 238.

- (1) 17.1.02. ♀. Iris brown; legs light brown; bill dark brown above, slaty below. In the stomach, orthoptera and coleoptera.

This is a rare bird; one specimen was found in company with several individuals of *M. croceus*.

27. *MACRONYX CROCEUS* (Vieill.); Stark, i. p. 239.

- (1) 21.7.02. ♀. Iris hazel; legs light brown; bill above dark brown, beneath bluish white, tipped with dark brown. In the stomach, coleoptera.

Resident and plentiful in the flat open country. It flies, when disturbed, to the tops of low bushes.

28. *ANTHUS PYRRHONOTUS* (Vieill.); Stark, i. p. 250.

- (1) 14.12.01. Iris dark brown; legs light brown: the bill has the upper mandible black with the lower ridge yellow, the lower mandible yellow. In the stomach, flies and beetles.

- (2) 11.9.02. ♀. Iris hazel.

Not plentiful, but sometimes met with in flocks, which frequent the hills.

29. *ANTHUS RUFULUS* (Vieill.); Stark, i. p. 251.

- (1) 2.9.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; legs light brown; bill above black, below yellow.

One specimen was obtained in the open country; it was flying about with a small flock of *Motacilla capensis*.

30. *MOTACILLA VIDUA* Sund. ; Stark, i. p. 255.

(1) 17.2.02. ♂. Iris dark brown ; bill and legs black.

(2) 3.3.02. ♀.

Very plentiful in the district of St. Johns, but never found far from running water. These birds often collect in flocks of about ten towards the evening, but go about in pairs during the day-time.

31. *MOTACILLA LONGICAUDA* Rüpp. ; Stark, i. p. 257.

(1) 17.11.01. ♀. Iris dark hazel ; legs light slate-coloured ; bill black, lower mandible beneath slate-coloured. In the stomach, small water-insects and their larvæ.

Resident and met with in pairs, but not frequenting the small forest-streams. On Dec. 17, 1901, a nest with three eggs was obtained. It was built on a ledge of some rocks overhanging a small stream in the thick bush.

32. *MOTACILLA CAPENSIS* Linn. ; Stark, i. p. 259.

(1) 11.2.02. ♀. Iris dark brown ; legs and bill black.

(2) 25.0.02. ♀.

Resident and very common ; more or less gregarious, except in the nesting-season. It does not generally frequent water, but is often seen feeding in flocks on ploughed land and among cattle. A nest with three eggs was obtained on Oct. 10, 1902.

33. *PROMEROPS GURNEYI* Verreaux ; Stark, i. p. 273.

(1) 15.6.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; bill and legs black.

This bird is resident, but rather local, frequenting the sugar-trees on the tops of the hills and apparently increasing in numbers during the winter months. The males seem to be much more plentiful than the females.

[This species has not previously been recorded within the limits of Cape Colony.—W. L. S.]

34. *NECTARINIA FAMOSA* (Linn.) ; Stark, i. p. 276.

Three males and two females, 4.5.02. Iris black-brown ; bill black ; legs black.

Not plentiful near St. Johns.

35. *CINNYRIS CHALYBEUS* (Linn.); Stark, i. p. 284.

(1) 15.11.01. Iris black; bill and legs black. In the stomach, small arachnids.

This is a very common bird, but seems to be more plentiful during the summer months.

36. *CINNYRIS AMETHYSTINUS* (Shaw); Stark, i. p. 287.

(1) 14.12.01. ♂. Iris black, bill and legs black. In the stomach, arachnids.

This is a very common resident. It is usually found among sugar-trees in the hilly country.

37. *CINNYRIS VERREAUXI* (Smith); Stark, i. p. 291.

(1) 19.11.01. ♂. Iris black; bill and legs black.

This is a fairly common resident in the open bush-country. The female and young differ from the male in having no red pectoral tufts.

38. *CINNYRIS OLIVACEUS* Smith; Stark, i. p. 292.

(1) 17.12.01. ♀.

Iris black; bill and legs black.

This is a very common resident in the banana-plantations near the coast. The female differs from the male in having no orange patch on the throat. The young birds are paler in colour, without the yellow pectoral tufts, and with the throat light greenish grey.

39. *ANTHOTHREPTES COLLARIS* (Vicill.); Stark, i. p. 297.

(1) 17.12.01. ♂. Iris dark hazel; bill and legs black.

In the stomach, small homoptera.

(2) 20.12.01. ♀. In the stomach, small berries, seeds, and egg-cases of insects.

This is a very common resident in the low bush-country near the coast.

40. *ZOSTEROPS VIRENS* Bp.; Stark, i. p. 301.

(1) 19.1.02. ♂. Iris brown; legs slate-coloured; bill black, lower mandible slate-coloured at the base.

In the stomach, berries.

(2) 20.1.02. ♀. In the stomach, wild fig.

(3) 1.5.02. ♂.

A very common resident, gregarious in habits.

41. *PARUS NIGER* Bonn.; Stark, i. p. 307.

- (1) 6.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel; legs blue-black; bill black.
In the stomach, insects.

This Tit is resident, but not plentiful. It frequents high trees, and nests in the hollows of them.

42. *LANIUS COLLURIO* Linn.; Stark, ii. p. 11.

- (1) 30.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel; bill dark slate-coloured;
legs slate-coloured.

A rare species in Pondoland: only one specimen being obtained in the thick bush.

43. *TELEPHONUS SENEGALUS* (Linn.); Stark, ii. p. 19.

- (1) 7.1.02. ♀. Iris hazel; legs light slate-coloured; bill
black. In the stomach, orthoptera.
(2) 25.6.02. ♂.

Common and resident; chiefly met with in the mimosa-bush.

44. *TELEPHONUS TCHAGRA* (Vicill.); Stark, ii. p. 21.

- (1) 26.7.02. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs light
slate-blue. In the stomach, orthoptera.
(2) 26.9.02.

This Bush-Shrike is not plentiful; it lives in the very thickest bush, and spends most of its time on the ground.

45. *DRYOSCOPIUS CUBLA* (Shaw); Stark, ii. p. 25.

- (1) 22.11.01. ♀. Iris orange; legs pale blue; bill black.
In the stomach, orthoptera.
(2) 17.12.01. ♂. In the stomach, caterpillars and
orthoptera.

Resident and very common in the thick bush.

46. *DRYOSCOPIUS TERRUGINEUS* (Gmel.); Stark, ii. p. 27.

- (1) 14.4.02. ♀. Iris dark hazel; legs slate-coloured;
bill slaty black.
(2) 14.4.02. ♀ jr. In the stomach, orthoptera.
(3) 7.9.02. ♂. Bill black.

Resident and very common in the thick bush. The young birds are entirely dark olive-brown.

47. *LANIARIUS RUBIGINOSUS* (Sund.) ; Stark, ii. p. 37.

(1) 17.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel ; bill black ; legs slate-coloured. In the stomach, hairy caterpillars.

(2) 21.11.01. ♂.

Not common, only two examples having been seen.

48. *LANIARIUS OLIVACEUS* (Shaw) ; Stark, ii. p. 38.

(1) 30.4.02. Iris brown ; legs slaty blue ; bill slate-coloured. In the stomach, coleoptera and orthoptera.

(2) 21.5.02. ♂. Bill above slaty black.

A rare bird which frequents marshy land. Only three specimens were seen.

49. *LANIARIUS STARKI* W. Sel. ; Stark, ii. p. 41.

(1) 15.11.01. ♀. Iris yellow ; bill black ; legs pale blue. In the stomach, coleoptera.

(2) 9.12.01. ♂. In the stomach, cicadas.

(3) 1.5.02. In the stomach, orthoptera.

Resident, but not plentiful.

50. *PYCNONOTUS LAYARDI* Gurney ; Stark, ii. p. 63.

(1) 15.11.01. ♂. Bill black ; iris dark brown ; legs black. In the stomach, caterpillars.

(2) 17.11.01. ♀.

Very common and resident.

51. *ANDROPADUS IMPORTUNUS* (Vicill.) ; Stark, ii. p. 65.

(1) 5.12.01. ♂. Iris pale yellow ; bill and legs black. In the stomach, wild figs.

(2) 22.12.01. ♂. Legs dark brown.

A very common resident, often seen in small flocks of from six to ten.

52. *PHYLLOSTREPHUS CAPENSIS* (Sw.) ; Stark, ii. p. 71.

(1) 18.2.02. ♀. In the stomach, berries and arachnids. Iris hazel ; legs slate-coloured ; bill slaty brown, with the edges of the mandibles yellowish.

(2) 4.4.02.

This is a very common resident. It feeds almost entirely among the dead leaves in the thick bush.

53. PHYLLOSTREPHUS FLAVO-STRIATUS (Sharpe) ; Stark, ii. p. 73.

(1) 18.2.02. ♀. Iris brown ; bill black ; legs slate-coloured. In the stomach, berries and insects.

This bird is common, but uncertain in its appearance. It goes about in small flocks and climbs trees in search of insects, never feeding on the ground like *P. capensis*.

[This species has not been previously recorded south of Zululand.—W. L. S.]

54. PHYLLOSCOPUS TROCHILUS (Linn.) ; Stark, ii. p. 84.

(1) 22.2.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; bill light brown ; legs yellowish brown.

This is a rare bird in Pondoland.

55. ACROCEPHALUS ARUNDINACEUS (Linn.) ; Stark, ii. p. 88.

(1) 1.4.02. Iris hazel ; legs slate-coloured ; bill slaty brown.

A rare species. It is easily distinguished in life from other reed-birds by its loud call-notes, but is shy, hiding, when disturbed, among the reeds.

[This bird has not been previously recorded from the Cape Colony, though it may probably occur there in other suitable situations.—W. L. S.]

56. PHLEXIS sp. inc.

(1) 20.9.02. Iris hazel ; bill slate-black ; legs flesh-coloured.

This bird is found among reeds in marshes ; it is very shy, hiding at once when disturbed.

The single specimen obtained was very badly shot, so that its identity is doubtful.

57. BRADYPTERUS BRACHYPTERUS (Vieill.) ; Stark, ii. p. 99.

(1) 2.5.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; legs dark slaty ; bill above brown, below flesh-coloured.

(2) 3.5.02. ♂.

This bird is plentiful in the places where it occurs, as among reeds on the banks of rivers, but it seems to stay with us only for a few months.

58. CAMAROPTERA OLIVACEA (Vieill.) ; Stark, ii. p. 112.

(1) 4.12.01. ♀. Iris dark hazel ; bill black ; legs flesh-coloured.

(2) 4.7.02.

Resident and very common in the thick bush, generally in damp localities.

59. CRYPTOLOPHA RUFICAPILLA (Sund.) ; Stark, ii. p. 119.

(1) 3.3.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; legs brown ; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower yellow.

(2) 20.4.02.

This is a fairly plentiful species, similar in habits to *Anthothreptes collaris*, and often seen with it, frequenting the thick bush.

60. APALIS THORACICA (Shaw et Nodd.) ; Stark, ii. p. 121.

(1) 17.11.01. ♂. Iris greenish white ; bill black ; legs flesh-coloured.

(2) 17.12.01. ♂.

Resident, and common in the thick bush.

61. CHLORODYTA NEGLECTA (Alex.) ; Stark, ii. p. 126.

(1) 15.12.01. ♂. Iris light hazel ; legs brown ; bill black.

This species is not plentiful ; it frequents the tangled bush and mimosa-thorn, living in pairs.

62. PRINIA HYPOXANTHA (Ayres) ; Stark, ii. p. 132.

(1) 25.2.02. Iris hazel ; bill black ; legs flesh-coloured.

This is a rare species.

63. PRINIA MYSTACEA (Rüpp.) ; Stark, ii. p. 135.

(1) 5.3.02. ♀. Iris hazel ; legs flesh-coloured ; bill with the upper mandible brown, the lower yellow.

Resident and very common ; frequenting certain damp wooded localities in large numbers.

64. PRINIA sp. inc.

(1) 23.12.01. ♀. Iris hazel ; bill black ; legs flesh-coloured.

This species differs in habit from *P. mystacea* in frequenting open marsh-country and resorting to reeds on the

banks of streams. It has a black bill and is much darker above, being dusky brown instead of yellowish. Moreover, the pale tips of the tail-feathers are much more pronounced, and the tail-feathers themselves are much shorter.

[These specimens seem to me to be *P. mystacea* in summer plumage.—W. L. S.]

65. *CISTICOLA FULVICAPILLA* (Vieill.) ; Stark, ii. p. 141.

(1) 28.12.01. ♀. Iris hazel; bill brown; legs light brown.

The specimen was obtained in long grass in company with *C. aberrans*.

66. *CISTICOLA ABERRANS* (Smith) ; Stark, ii. p. 143.

(1) 28.12.02. ♂. Iris hazel; legs flesh-coloured (brownish); bill with the upper mandible brown, the lower grey.

(2) 11.2.02. ♂.

(3) 17.7.02. ♀.

Common in the long grass; generally seen in dry localities.

67. *CISTICOLA TINNIENS* (Licht.) ; Stark, ii. p. 147.

(1) 1.9.02. ♂. Iris hazel; bill black, lighter below; legs light brown.

(2) 7.9.02. ♀.

Plentiful in certain localities among the long grass in marshy flats, but local, and uncertain in appearance.

68. *CISTICOLA TERRESTRIS* (Smith) ; Stark, ii. p. 149.

(1) 10.4.02. Iris hazel; legs flesh-coloured; bill flesh-coloured, upper mandible black above.

(2) 21.7.02. ♀.

Plentiful in the grassy country, taking short flights when disturbed and hiding in the grass like a Lark.

69. *CISTICOLA NATALENSIS* (Smith) ; Stark, ii. p. 155.

(1) 18.1.02. ♂. Iris light brown; legs flesh-coloured; bill black.

(2) 19.1.02. ♀.

(3) 7.9.02. ♀. Iris yellowish brown; bill with the upper mandible brown, the lower flesh-coloured.

(4) 23.9.02. ♂.

The first two specimens were found in dry grassy country on the tops of hills, the latter two on swampy flats.

This is a common resident species.

70. *SPHENEACUS INTERMEDIUS* Shelley ; Stark, ii. p. 168.

- (1) 6.9.02. ♀. Iris dark red ; legs light slaty blue ; bill with the upper mandible dark brown, the lower light slaty blue.

This bird is not common ; it frequents marshy country and is gregarious.

71. *TURDUS GUTTATUS* Vigors ; Stark, ii. p. 172.

- (1) 7.2.02. Jr. Iris dark brown ; legs flesh-coloured ; bill slate-coloured, ridge of upper mandible black.

- (2) 8.9.02. ♂. Bill pinkish slate-coloured. In the stomach, myriapoda.

- (3) 8.9.02. ♀.

Resident, but not plentiful, and very shy, seldom leaving the thick undergrowth. It makes the same scratching noise among the dead leaves as *Turdus olivaceus*, *Phyllostrephus capensis*, and *Ædonopsis signata*.

72. *TURDUS OLIVACEUS* Linn. ; Stark, ii. p. 175.

- (1) 23.11.01. ♂. Iris dark brown ; legs pale yellow ; bill yellow, ridge of upper mandible black. In the stomach, worms.

- (2) 23.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel. In the stomach, orthoptera and cicadas.

This is a very common resident species.

73. *MONTICOLA RUPESTRIS* (Vieill.) ; Stark, ii. p. 181.

- (1) 3.1.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; bill black ; legs dark brown. In the stomach, orthoptera.

- (2) 3.6.02. ♀. Bill slate-black. In the stomach, seeds of wild bananas.

This bird is plentiful, generally frequenting rocky situations. It is most common on the sea-coast.

74. *PRATINCOLA TORQUATA* (Linn.) ; Stark, ii. p. 190.

- (1) 24.7.02. ♂. Iris dark brown ; bill black ; legs black.

Not common, but occurs occasionally in the mimosa-bush country.

75. *SAXICOLA FAMILIARIS* Stephens; Stark, ii. p. 201.

(1) 27.1.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; legs black; bill dark brown. In the stomach, coleoptera.

Found on the tops of the hills, but not plentiful.

76. *COSSYPHA BICOLOR* (Sparrm.); Stark, ii. p. 209.

(1) 9.12.02. ♂. Iris hazel; bill black; legs flesh-coloured. In the stomach, insects.

(2) 28.1.02. ♀.

(3) 28.9.02. ♂. Legs bluish flesh-coloured. In the stomach, coleoptera.

Not plentiful, and usually heard only at dusk. It frequents the dense woods, and often imitates the cry of the Emerald Cuckoo.

77. *COSSYPHA CAFFRA* (Linn.); Stark, ii. p. 213.

(1) 25.8.02. ♀. Iris black-brown; bill black; legs dark brown.

A rare bird in the St. Johns district.

78. *COSSYPHA SIGNATA* Sund.; Stark, ii. p. 215.

(1) 7.1.02. ♀. Iris hazel; bill black; legs flesh-coloured. In the stomach, coleoptera and other insects.

(2) 8.9.02. ♂. Legs bluish flesh-coloured; iris dark brown.

Resident, but not plentiful; often seen in company with *Phyllostrephus capensis*, but more shy.

79. *TARSIGER SILENS* (Shaw); Stark, ii. p. 219.

(1) 22.7.02. ♀. Iris hazel; legs and bill black. In the stomach, insects.

(2) 26.7.02. ♀. Iris dark brown.

This bird is common during the winter months in the scrubby bush. The females are more plentiful than the males.

80. *MUSCICAPA CERULESCENS* (Hartl.); Stark, ii. p. 241.

(1) 3.3.02. ♂ jr. Iris brown; bill black; legs brown.

A resident species, fairly plentiful, and more or less gregarious.

[New to the avifauna of the Cape Colony.—W. L. S.]

81. *ALSEONAX ADUSTA* (Boie); Stark, ii. p. 243.

(1) 22.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel; bill black; legs black.

(2) 9.12.01. ♂ jr. Legs brown.

This species is a very common resident. On October 30th, 1902, I found a nest with three eggs built on a ledge of rock in the thick forest.

82. *PACHYPRORA CAPENSIS* (Linn.); Stark, ii. p. 254.

(1) 22.11.01. ♂. Iris orange; legs black; bill black.

(2) 17.12.01. ♀. Iris crimson; legs slate-coloured; bill black.

A resident and very common species in tangled wooded country. The female differs from the male in having no black band on the chest. The iris is orange in the male and crimson in the female. The legs in the male are black, in the female slate-coloured.

83. *PACHYPRORA MOLITOR* (Hahn & Küster); Stark, ii. p. 255.

(1) 11.9.02. ♂. Iris yellow; legs black; bill black.

This species, which is not common, takes the place of *P. capensis* in the mimosa-bush country. The female is identical in plumage with the male: it is described incorrectly by Stark as having no black on the chest. The immature birds only have rufous markings.

84. *TROCHOCERCUS CYANOMELAS* (Vieill.); Stark, ii. p. 259

(1) 27.3.02. Iris dark hazel; bill brown; legs slate-coloured.

Resident and fairly plentiful in the bush-country.

85. *TERPSIPHONE PERSPICILLATA* (Sw.); Stark, ii. p. 261.

(1) 15.11.01. ♂. Iris dark hazel; legs slaty blue; bill and eyelids bright blue.

(2) 23.9.02. ♂. Iris dark brown.

This is a common resident. I took two eggs in December 1901. The nest was cup-shaped, fastened with cobwebs near the end of a branch in the thick bush.

86. *DICRURUS AFER* (Licht.); Stark, ii. p. 265.

(1) 15.11.01. ♂. Iris crimson; bill and legs black. In the stomach, coleoptera.

This is a very common resident. It is always active about dusk, when it feeds largely on night-flying coleoptera. The nest is cup-shaped, built among the branches of trees.

87. *DICRURUS LUDVIGI* (A. Smith); Stark, ii. p. 267.

(1) 7.1.02. ♂. In the stomach, coleoptera. Iris red; feet and bill black.

(2) 18.2.02. ♀.

Also resident, but not so plentiful as *D. afer*.

[New to the Avifauna of the Cape Colony.—W. L. S.]

88. *CAMPOPHAGA NIGRA* (Vieill.); Stark, ii. p. 269.

(1) 20.9.02. ♂. Iris black; bill black, yellow at the gape; legs black.

Not common at St. Johns, but occasionally met with.

89. *CAMPOPHAGA HARTLAUBI* (Layard); Stark, ii. p. 272.

(1) 21.7.02. ♀. Iris, bill, and legs black. In the stomach, orthoptera.

This species is not common at St. Johns. The specimen obtained may possibly be a female of *C. nigra*, but a male of *C. hartlaubi* was seen several days before in the same locality.

90. *GRAUCALUS CÆSIUS* (Licht.); Stark, ii. p. 275.

(1) 26.11.01. ♂. Iris black; legs and bill black. In the stomach, coleoptera.

(2) 31.12.01. ♂. Iris dark brown.

This is a common resident at St. Johns. When in a tree it will often climb along the branches. The feathers on the back are very loose, making it difficult to skin the bird.

91. *PTYONOPROCNE FULIGULA* (Licht.); Stark, ii. p. 286.

(1) 25.8.02. ♀. Bill black; legs brown; iris black.

(2) 25.8.02. ♂.

A common resident, usually frequenting the tops of the hills; but coming down into the valleys in rough weather. It is more plentiful during the winter months.

92. *HIRUNDO ALBIGULARIS* Strickl.; Stark, ii. p. 292.

(1) 29.8.02. ♀. Iris dark hazel; bill and legs black.

(2) 29.10.02. ♀.

Irregular in appearance and not plentiful. On one occasion (July 1902) it was very abundant after a storm. A few individuals seem to remain in the St. Johns district all the year round. A nest with two eggs was taken on October 29th; it was similar to that of *H. rustica*.

93. *HIRUNDO CUCULLATA* Bodd.; Stark, ii. p. 298.

(1) 8.9.02. Iris black-brown; legs and bill black.

(2) 19.10.02. ♀. Legs brown.

Very common in the summer at St. Johns, but absent in the winter from about June to August. *H. cucullata* and *H. puella* leave us about the same time.

94. *HIRUNDO PUELLA* Temm.; Stark, ii. p. 300.

(1) 25.2.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill and legs black.

(2) 7.3.02. ♂.

(3) 4.11.02. ♀.

This is a very common species, more plentiful than *H. cucullata*. It nests in the houses.

95. *PSALIDOPROCNE HOLOMELÆNA* (Sund.); Stark, ii. p. 307.

(1) 2.2.02. ♂. Iris black; legs brown; bill black.

(2) 2.2.02. ♂.

This Swallow is resident and plentiful. It nests in holes in the cliffs.

96. *IRRISOR VIRIDIS* (Licht.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 14.

(1) 21.11.01. ♀. Iris dark brown; bill red; legs red, claws brown. In the stomach, gryllidæ.

(2) 6.2.02. Jr. Iris hazel; bill black; legs flesh-coloured.

(3) 18.2.02. ♂.

A common resident; gregarious in habits.

97. *CYPSELUS AFRICANUS* (Temm.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 21.

This Swift is fairly plentiful; it frequents the mountains, and flies higher than the other species of the genus.

98. *CYPSELUS BARBATUS* P. L. ScL.; Stark et ScL. iii. p. 25.

(1) 27.1.02. ♀. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs dark brown.

This is a common resident species.

99. *CYPSELUS CAFFER* Licht.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 25.

(1) 23.10.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs brown.

(2) 23.10.02. ♂.

This Swift is rather plentiful during the summer months. In the nesting-season it frequents the rivers, in the banks of which it nests. It arrives in October.

100. *CAPRIMULGUS EUROPÆUS* Linn.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 32.

(1) 25.3.02. ♀. Iris black; bill black; legs brown. In the stomach, coleoptera.

This Nightjar is common at St. Johns during the summer months.

101. *CORACIAS GARRULUS* Linn.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 46.

(1) 15.1.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs light brown. In the stomach, orthoptera.

(2) 20.1.02. ♀.

Rather rare near St. Johns: only two examples seen.

102. *CERYLE RUDIS* (Linn.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 73.

(1) 27.11.01. ♀. Iris dark brown; legs and bill black. In the stomach, remains of fish.

Very common near St. Johns, and apparently more plentiful during the summer months. It frequents the rivers.

103. *CERYLE MAXIMA* (Pallas); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 76.

(1) 4.6.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs dark brown. In the stomach, remains of fish.

Found on the rivers, but not plentiful.

104. *ALCEDO SEMITORQUATA* Sw.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 78.

(1) 25.1.02. ♀. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs orange-red; claws black. In the stomach, remains of fish.

This is a common resident species.

105. *CORYTHORNIS CYANOSTIGMA* (Rüpp.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 81.

(1) 11.10.02. ♀. Iris brown; bill and legs orange-red. In the stomach, insects and occasionally remains of fish.

(2) 12.10.02. ♀.

This is a resident species and fairly plentiful.

106. *ISPIDINA NATALENSIS* (Smith); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 83.

(1) 27.11.01. ♂. Iris black; bill and legs orange-red.

In the stomach, orthoptera.

This is a very common species during the summer months. It is not confined to the river-banks.

107. *HALCYON ALBIVENTRIS* (Scop.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 86.

(1) 4.12.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill and legs orange-red.

(2) 5.12.01. ♀. In the stomach, orthoptera.

This is a common resident species; it is not confined to the banks of streams.

108. *COLIUS STRIATUS* (Gm.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 95.

(1) 2.11.01. ♂. Iris black; legs pink-brown; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower light blue. In the stomach, wild figs.

(2) 2.12.01. ♀.

A very common resident, frequenting the scrubby bush-country in small flocks.

109. **COLIUS ERYTHROMELON* Vieill.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 99.

This is a rare bird here.

110. **BUCORAX CAFER* Boc.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 102.

This bird is not very common here. It is found in small flocks of from six to eight, feeding on the ground in the open country. It roosts in trees.

111. *BYCANISTES BUCCINATOR* (Temm.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 106.

(1) 15.12.01. ♂. Legs black; bill black; iris dark brown. In the stomach, papaws.

(2) 20.12.01. ♂. Iris yellow. In the stomach, wild figs.

This Hornbill is common and gregarious, taking the place of *Lophoceros melanoleucus* during the summer months and migrating in the winter.

112. *LOPHOCEROS MELANOLEUCUS* (Licht.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 110.

(1) 25.11.01. ♂. Iris yellow ; legs black ; bill red. In the stomach, orthoptera.

(2) 6.12.01. ♀.

Very common and gregarious ; most plentiful during the winter months.

113. *HAPALODERMA NARINA* (Steph.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 121.

(1) 26.11.01. ♂ jr. Iris hazel ; legs flesh-coloured : bill pale green. In the stomach, orthoptera.

(2) 7.1.02. ♂ jr. Iris dark brown ; bill light slate-yellow ; skin on throat flesh-coloured ; skin round the eye greenish.

(3) 11.10.02. ♂. Iris reddish hazel ; bill light slate-blue, yellowish at the gape ; skin on the throat and round the eye blue ; skin on the cheeks greenish blue. Contents of stomach, hairy caterpillars and coleoptera.

This Trogon is resident and fairly plentiful ; it is quiet, but not at all shy, and frequents the thick bush.

114. *CAMPOTHERA NOTATA* (Licht.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 129.

(1) 2.11.01. ♂. Iris dark brown ; bill dark slate-coloured ; legs greenish slate-coloured.

This is the most plentiful species of Woodpecker round Port St. Johns. It is a resident.

115. *DENDROPICUS CARDINALIS* (Gm.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 135.

(1) 4.1.02. ♂. Iris crimson ; legs greenish slate-coloured ; bill dark slate-coloured.

(2) 7.1.02. ♀.

Fairly plentiful in the district.

116. *THRIPIAS NAMAQUUS* (Licht.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 138.

(1) 2.11.01. ♀. Iris dull red ; bill slaty, upper mandible tipped with black ; legs slaty.

This is a rare species, and is not found near the coast, but

occurs in the mimosa-bush about twelve miles inland from Port St. Johns.

[This bird has not hitherto been obtained south of Zululand.—W. L. S.]

117. *MESOPICUS GRISEOCEPHALUS* (Bodd.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 140.

(1) 2.1.02. ♀. Iris dark hazel; legs slaty; bill with the upper mandible slate-coloured, the lower light blue. Not plentiful.

118. **INDICATOR SPARRMANI* Steph.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 146.

Obtained by the Woodward on the St. Johns River.

119. *INDICATOR MINOR* Stephens; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 152.

(1) 17.5.02. ♀. Iris hazel; bill dark brown; legs slaty. In the stomach, insects and beeswax.

(2) 25.8.02. ♀. Bill slaty black; lower mandible pink below.

Not plentiful in the district.

120. *LYBIUS TORQUATUS* (Dumont); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 157.

(1) 28.11.01. ♂. Iris hazel; bill and legs black.

(2) 20.10.02. ♂. Iris reddish brown. In the stomach, berries and coleoptera.

This is a common resident, living in pairs all through the year.

121. *BARBATULA PUSILLA* (Dumont); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 166.

(1) 11.1.02. ♂. Iris black; bill black; legs slaty. In the stomach, vegetable matter.

(2) 27.1.02. ♂. In the stomach, insects and berries.

Common in summer, and frequenting the tops of high trees, where it flies about singly. It is either migratory or silent during the winter months.

122. *CUCULUS CANORUS* Linn.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 177.

(1) 26.3.02. ♀. Iris dull orange; legs yellow; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower yellowish black.

[The European Cuckoo has not previously been obtained south of the Transvaal, and is therefore a new bird to the Avifauna of the Cape Colony. —W. L. S.]

123. *CUCULUS SOLITARIUS* Steph.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 173.

(1) 25.11.01. ♂. Iris hazel; legs yellow; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower yellow.

(2) 6.12.01. Skin round the eye yellow. In the stomach, hairy caterpillars.

This Cuckoo is very common during the summer months, but leaves the district in winter, appearing again early in October. Its local name is "Will o' the Wisp," partly owing to its cry and partly to its being seldom seen, as it flies quietly, almost like an Owl.

124. *CUCULUS CLAMOSUS* Lath.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 182.

(1) 9.12.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs brown. In the stomach, hairy caterpillars.

(2) 14.12.01. ♂. Legs dark brown.

This Cuckoo is plentiful in the summer months. It leaves the district in winter, and reappears at the same time as *C. solitarius*.

125. *CHRYSOCOCCYX SMARAGDINEUS* (Swains.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 185.

(1) 17.11.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; legs pale blue; bill greenish grey, tipped with black. In the stomach, insects (chiefly caterpillars).

A common bird during the summer months. *C. smaragdineus* and *C. klaasi* visit St. Johns in the spring, and arrive a few weeks earlier than the other Cuckoos. This species invariably utters its call from the top of a very high tree, where it is difficult to see it. *Barbatula pusilla* resembles it in this respect.

126. *CHRYSOCOCCYX KLAASI* Steph.; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 186.

(1) 2.11.01. Iris hazel; legs slaty; bill black, lower mandible greenish underneath. In the stomach, insects and caterpillars.

(2) 4.11.01. ♂. Bill dull green.

This Cuckoo is plentiful during the summer months. It

differs in habit from *C. smaragdineus* in that it generally calls while flying.

127. *CHRYSOCOCCYX CUPREUS* (Bodd.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 189.

- (1) 29.11.01. ♂. Iris pink; eyelids red; legs black; bill black, lower mandible grey below. In the stomach, hairy caterpillars.

This species is rare on the coast. It frequents the mimosa-bush country a few miles inland, but is not so plentiful as *C. klaasi*.

128. *COCCYSTES SERRATUS* (Sparr.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 199.

- (1) 27.11.01. ♀. Iris hazel; bill black; legs black. In the stomach, hairy caterpillars.

Found occasionally in the mimosa-bush. The eggs are white.

129. *CENTROPUS BURCHELLI* Sw. ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 203.

- (1) 5.1.02. ♀. Iris dull red; legs slaty blue; bill with the upper mandible black, the lower slate-coloured. In the stomach, orthoptera.
- (2) 8.7.02. Iris crimson; bill slaty black. In the stomach, a frog and orthoptera.

This is a very common resident. It has a weak flight, and hides itself among thick undergrowth when disturbed.

130. *TURACUS CORYTHAIX* (Wagler); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 213.

- (1) 16.11.01. ♂. Iris hazel; bill red; legs black. In the stomach, berries.
- (2) 9.12.01. ♀. Iris dark brown. In the stomach, wild figs.

This is a common resident, more or less gregarious. It generally feeds in the high fig-trees.

131. *PŒOCEPHALUS ROBUSTUS* (Gm.); Stark et Sel. iii. p. 224.

- (1) 23.1.02. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill greyish white; legs blue-grey. In the stomach, berries.

This is a plentiful bird. It flies high and rather swiftly

when travelling, but is easily distinguished from other birds by its quickly flapping wings and continuous screaming.

132. *STRIX FLAMMEA* (Linn.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 237.

(1) 21.7.02. ♀. Iris dark brown ; bill flesh-coloured ; legs grey-pink.

This Owl is not plentiful here.

133. *SYRNIUM WOODFORDI* (Smith) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 245.

(1) 18.1.02. ♀. Iris black ; bill pale yellow ; legs light brown.

This is the most common Owl round Port St. Johns.

134. **BUBO MACULOSUS* (Vicill.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 249.

This Owl is of occasional occurrence, but is not plentiful.

135. **GLAUCIDIUM PERLATUM* (Vicill.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 257.

This species is occasionally seen by day ; it has conspicuous yellow eyes.

136. *FALCO MINOR* Bp. ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 268.

(1) 3.10.02. ♀. Iris dark brown ; bill blue-black, yellowish at the base ; legs yellow ; skin round the eye yellow. In the stomach, remains of birds.

This swiftly flying Falcon is strong and heavy for its size, and very destructive to quails and poultry. The Pondos use it in its wild state for hawking-purposes. When they hunt quails they have a means of attracting the Falcon by a certain kind of whistle, which it follows. The quails, on seeing the Falcon, drop into the grass and allow themselves to be caught.

137. **TINNUNCULUS RUPICOLA* (Daud.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 277.

This Kestrel is fairly plentiful in the district of St. Johns.

138. *BAZA VERREAUXI* (Lafr.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 287.

(1) 30.8.02. ♀. Iris yellow ; legs pale yellow ; bill black, cere pale yellow. In the stomach, locusts.

Not common near St. Johns.

139. *LOPHOAËTUS OCCIPITALIS* (Daud.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 307.

(1) 7.5.02. Iris yellow; legs pale yellow; bill slaty tipped with black, cere yellow. In the stomach, several small field-mice (*Mus minutoides*).

(2) 1.9.02. ♂. In the stomach, several mice (*Mus colonus*).

This Eagle is resident and abundant, especially along the coast. It often hovers motionless over a certain spot, even with a strong wind blowing.

140. **HALIAËTUS VOCIFER* (Daud.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 310.

Resident and fairly plentiful on the high cliffs around St. Johns, where it probably breeds. It is shy and difficult to approach.

141. **HELOTARSUS ECAUDATUS* (Daud.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 314.

This Eagle is very well known at St. Johns, and can be distinguished by its red legs a long way off. It is said to kill young goats and sheep.

142. *BUTEO JAKAL* (Daud.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 330.

(1) 21.9.02. ♂. Iris light chocolate-brown; legs yellow; bill dark slate-coloured, cere yellow. In the stomach, mice.

(2) 20.9.02. ♀. Iris yellow. In the stomach, lizards.

(3) 10.10.02. ♂. Bill slate-coloured, cere and gape yellow.

A resident and abundant species.

143. *MILVUS ÆGYPTIUS* (Gm.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 336.

(1) 27.11.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill yellow; legs yellow. In the stomach, locusts.

This is a fairly plentiful species.

144. *ELANUS CÆRULEUS* (Desf.); Stark et ScL. iii. p. 339.

(1) 20.9.02. ♀. Iris bright crimson; legs yellow; bill black, cere yellow. In the stomach, mice.

This Hawk frequents open country, but is not very plentiful. Small birds do not seem to mob it, but are not afraid

of it, though it is said to carry off small chickens and quail occasionally.

145. ACCIPITER MINULLUS (Daud.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 348.

(1) 25.11.01. ♀. Iris orange-red ; legs yellow ; bill black, cere yellow. In the stomach, myriapoda.

A common resident, said to do a certain amount of damage among the poultry.

146. ASTUR TACHIRO (Daud.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 356.

(1) 16.1.02. ♂ (?). Iris yellow. In the stomach, insects.

(2) 15.3.02. ♂ (?). Iris dull grey ; legs pale yellow ; bill black, cere yellow.

Very common and resident, doing great damage in the poultry-yards.

147. POLYBOROIDES TYPICUS Smith ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 380.

(1) 4.11.02. ♂. Iris dark brown ; bill black, cere and gape yellowish white ; skin round the eye yellow ; legs yellow.

This species is not plentiful. Its habits are like those of a Woodpecker, as it climbs up and down the trunks of trees after insects. Its much stiffened tail-feathers seem adapted to this mode of life.

148. *PANDION HALIAËTUS (Linn.) ; Stark et Sel. iii. p. 400.

The Osprey is not plentiful near St. Johns, but occasionally frequents the high cliffs on the east side of the river.

149. VINAGO DELALANDII Bp. ; S. & L. p. 558.

(1) 18.11.01. ♂. Iris greenish white ; legs orange ; bill greenish white, cere red. In the stomach, wild figs.

This Pigeon is common during the summer months ; it is gregarious, and feeds almost exclusively on the wild fig-trees. During the winter it is absent.

150. COLUMBA PHÆONOTA Gray ; S. & L. p. 559.

(1) 26.11.01. Iris red and yellow ; bill dark slate-

coloured, cere white; legs pink; skin round the eye dull crimson. In the stomach, mealies.

This is a fairly plentiful resident and more or less gregarious. It nests in the rocks.

151. **COLUMBA ARQUATRIX* (Temm.); S. & L. p. 561.

This is a rare bird and irregular in its appearance. It is migratory, and visits St. Johns in the winter season.

152. *TURTUR SEMITORQUATUS* Rüpp.; S. & L. p. 566.

(1) 17.2.02. ♀. Iris dark orange-red; bill black; legs crimson.

A common and resident species, which is gregarious during the winter months. It is not very plentiful near the coast, except where the country is open.

153. *TURTUR SENEGALENSIS* Linn.; S. & L. p. 568.

(1) 28.3.02. Iris brown; bill black; legs pink.

Not common, but occasionally found in the mimosa-bush, about twelve miles inland.

154. *TYMPANISTRIA BICOLOR* Reichenb.

Tympanistria tympanistria S. & L. p. 571.

(1) 15.1.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill dark reddish brown; legs red-brown. In the stomach, berries.

This is a very common resident, feeding chiefly on castor-oil seeds when they are in season.

155. **HAPLOPELIA LARVATA* Temm.; S. & L. p. 564.

This Dove is rare, and only found in very thick bush.

156. **FRANCOLINUS LEVAILLANTI* Temm.; S. & L. p. 596.

This Francolin is not plentiful; it generally frequents the hills near the coast.

157. **FRANCOLINUS NATALENSIS* Smith; S. & L. p. 592.

Also a rare species, found further inland than *F. levallanti*.

158. *COTURNIX CAPENSIS*.

Coturnix coturnix S. & L. p. 603.

(1) 11.7.02. ♂. Iris dull orange.

The Quail appears at St. Johns for a very short time in the year, about the end of July and August, but is then very common.

159. *PODICA PETERSI* Hartl. ; S. & L. p. 625.

(1) 18.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel ; legs orange-red ; bill orange-red. In the stomach, crustacea.

(2) 26.12.01. ♂. Iris hazel ; bill orange-red, brownish above.

(3) 2.3.02. ♀. Iris pale yellow ; bill with the upper mandible dark brown, the lower orange-red.

This bird is not very plentiful ; it is heavy and weak on the wing, and generally flies with its legs splashing up the water.

160. **HETEROTETRAX VIGORSI*.

Otis scolopacea S. & L. p. 637.

Heterotetrax vigorsi Sharpe, Cat. B. xxiii. p. 296.

This Bustard is not common ; it is said to be very tame and easy to approach.

161. *ÆDICNEMUS VERMICULATUS* Cab. ; S. & L. p. 647.

(1) 2.4.02. Iris pale green ; legs pale greenish grey ; bill black, yellowish at the base.

(2) 2.4.02.

(3) 7 4.02. In the stomach, insects.

This is not a common bird. It appears in the early winter months on the St. Johns River, and is then met with in pairs. It seems to migrate up the river.

162. *ÆGIALITIS TRICOLLARIS* (Vicill.) ; S. & L. p. 662.

(1) 2.9.02. ♀. Iris yellowish brown, narrow ; bill at the base pink, at the point black ; legs bluish flesh-coloured ; skin round the eye red.

(2) 6.9.02. ♂. Legs brown.

This Plover appears singly or in pairs during the winter months in marshy localities, but is not plentiful.

163. *ÆGIALITIS MARGINATA* (Vicill.) ; S. & L. p. 659.

(1) 23.12.01. ♀. Iris black ; bill black ; legs light slate-blue. In the stomach, crustacea.

(2) 2.9.02. ♂. Legs bluish flesh-coloured.

This is a resident species, very common on the sand-hills of the sea-shore.

164. *TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS* (Linn.) ; S. & L. p. 686.

(1) 11.12.01. ♂. Iris dark hazel ; bill dark greenish slate-coloured ; legs light greenish slate-coloured. In the stomach, insects.

(2) 11.12.01. ♀.

(3) 28.12.01. ♀. Legs pale green ; bill dark brown, black above. In the stomach, small crustacea.

This is a very common species, and is often seen in small flocks on the banks of the rivers.

165. *TOTANUS GLAREOLA* (Linn.) ; S. & L. p. 690.

(1) 4.11.02. Iris black ; bill black, yellowish below ; legs dull greenish yellow.

A single specimen was obtained on a mud-bank in a small inland salt-pan.

166. *CALIDRIS ARENARIA* (Linn.) ; S. & L. p. 684.

(1) 2.9.02. ♀. Iris black ; bill and legs black.

The Sanderling comes to the sea-shore in flocks after rough weather at certain times of year.

167. *TRINGA MINUTA* (Leisl.) ; S. & L. p. 681.

(1) 2.11.02. Iris black ; bill black ; legs dark greenish slate-coloured.

A single specimen was observed by the sea-coast along with a pair of Sanderlings.

168. *TRINGA SUBARQUATA* (Güldenst.) ; S. & L. p. 682.

(1) 26.9.02. ♂. Iris black ; bill black ; legs black.

Once met with at the mouth of the St. Johns River after rough weather.

169. *STERNA MACRURA* Naum.

(1) 15.6.02. Bill black ; legs dark red.

One specimen of this Tern was obtained on the coast after rough weather.

[The Arctic Tern is a rare bird in South Africa.—W. L. S.]

170. **MAJAJQUEUS AEquINOCTIALIS* (Linn.) ; S. & L. p. 766.

(1) 13.6.02. [Identified from the skull.—W. L. S.]

171. *ÆSTRELATA MACROPTERA* (Smith); S. & L. p. 766.

(1) 13.6.02. ♀. Iris grey-black; bill black; legs black.

(2) 14.6.02.

Very common at sea, but never coming to the coast except after rough weather.

172. *ÆSTRELATA MOLLIS* (Gould); S. & L. p. 766.

(1) 11.6.02. ♂. Iris black; bill black; legs black and pink.

(2) 14.6.02. ♀.

Occasionally seen in flocks on the sea-shore at St. Johns after rough weather.

173. *PRION BANKSI* Gould; Salvin, Cat. B. xxv. p. 434.

(1) 15.6.02. ♂. Iris black; legs slate-blue; bill blue and slate-coloured.

This species is fairly plentiful on the coast after rough weather, when it is often driven miles inland.

174. **DIOMEDEA MELANOPHRYS* Temm.; S. & L. p. 772.

Fairly plentiful at sea off St. Johns. [This species has been identified from the skull.—W. L. S.]

175. **HAGEDASHIA HAGEDASH* (Lath.); S. & L. p. 739.

(1) 25.2.02. ♀. Legs dark red-brown; bill dark brown, red above. In the stomach, insects and crustacea.

This Ibis is fairly common, especially during the winter months, when it is gregarious. At night it always roosts on certain trees, generally those overhanging the river, and it is then very easy to shoot specimens, as they seldom leave the trees for long. A few pairs stay to breed at St. Johns.

176. *ARDEA BUBULCUS* Aud.

(1) 13.10.02. ♂. Iris pale yellow; bill pinkish yellow; legs yellowish brown. In the stomach, frogs and locusts.

(2) 12.10.02. ♂. In the stomach, locusts.

(3) 12.10.02. ♂. Skin round the eye flesh-coloured, tinged with blue.

The Buff-backed Egret is of uncertain appearance in the winter season, when it occasionally arrives in flocks.

177. *ARDEA ALBA Linn.; S. & L. p. 714.

The Great White Egret is very rare at St. Johns.

178. ARDEA MELANOCEPHALA Vig. & Childr.; S. & L. p. 709.

(1) 29.3.02. ♀. Iris yellow; legs black; bill slate-coloured.

(2) 12.10.02. ♀. Bill black, at the base bluish green; skin round the eye bluish green.

This is a common resident, often met with in small flocks towards evening, when it roosts in the trees overhanging the water.

179. ARDEA CINEREA Linn.; S. & L. p. 708.

(1) 4.1.02.

Not common at St. Johns.

180. *ARDEA PURPUREA Linn.; S. & L. p. 710.

The Purple Heron is not common at St. Johns. It has a heavier flight than *A. cinerea*, and seems to have shorter wings and a longer neck in proportion to its size.

181. *ARDEA GOLIATH Temm.; S. & L. p. 707.

A rare bird at St. Johns, and very shy.

182. BUTORIDES ATRICAPILLA (Afzel.); S. & L. p. 719.

(1) 7.5.02. ♂. Iris yellow; legs green-grey; bill with the upper mandible dark green at the base, the lower mandible yellow, the upper ridge black.

Only two examples of this bird were seen. They were easy to approach, seldom taking long flights when disturbed. They were more or less crepuscular in their habits.

183. ARDETTA MINUTA (Linn.).

(1) 21.1.02. ♂.

The Little Bittern is rare at St. Johns, and only two examples were seen. It has a slow and weak flight, moving away to a short distance when disturbed, and then hiding itself among the reeds, whence it is difficult to flush it a second time.

[*A. minuta* is distinguished from *A. podiceps* by the distinctly dusky neck-frill, which is bright chestnut in

A. podicipes, and by having no chestnut patch on the lesser wing-coverts. It is a new species to South Africa.—W. L. S.]

184. *SCOPUS UMBRETTA* Gm.; S. & L. p. 725.

(1) 27.12.01. ♂. Iris dark brown; bill black; legs black. In the stomach, frogs.

(2) 27.12.01. ♀.

Very common about St. Johns.

185. **CICONIA NIGRA* Linn.; S. & L. p. 729.

Rare, only one specimen seen, in company with a small flock of *C. episcopus*.

186. *CICONIA EPISCOPUS* (Bodd.); S. & L. p. 731.

(1) 12.9.02. ♀. Iris dark red; bill black, with the upper ridge and point red; legs dull red-brown. In the stomach, worms.

A flock of this species appeared on the St. Johns River in September 1902 along with one specimen of *C. nigra*; it is known there locally as the "Pied Hadadah," and seems to visit the river pretty regularly during the winter.

187. **PHALACROCORAX LUCIDUS* Licht.; S. & L. p. 778.

This Cormorant is irregular in its appearance, but is said occasionally to visit the St. Johns River in large flocks.

188. **PHALACROCORAX CAPENSIS* Sparrm.; S. & L. p. 780.

This Cormorant is found on the sea-coast, but is not plentiful. It does not seem to visit the rivers.

189. *PHALACROCORAX AFRICANUS* (Gm.); S. & L. p. 781.

(1) 3.1.02. ♂ jr. Iris pink; legs black; bill pale green, the upper ridge black, the sides of the mandibles banded with brown.

This Cormorant is not abundant, but occurs occasionally on the rivers and salt-water pans.

190. **SULA CAPENSIS* Licht.; S. & L. p. 775.

This Gannet is common at sea off St. Johns. [It has been identified from the skull.—W. L. S.]

191. **PLECTROPTERUS GAMBENSIS* (Linn.); S. & L. p. 746.

This Goose is now rare, but is said to have been formerly quite plentiful. Two examples were seen in November 1902.

192. *CASARCA CANA (Gmel.) ; S. & L. p. 753.

This Sheldrake is not common. A flock of four was seen in the district in October 1902.

193. CHENALOPEX ÆGYPTIACUS (Linn.) ; S. & L. p. 747.

(1) 11.7.02. ♂. Iris crimson ; legs pink ; bill light pink, marked with pink-brown. In the stomach, vegetable matter.

The Egyptian Goose is not abundant, but comes down to the coast regularly in winter. A pair or two sometimes stay and breed. The bird is shy and difficult to approach, while it occasionally assembles in flocks of a dozen.

194. ANAS UNDULATA Dubois.

Anas xanthorhyncha S. & L. p. 755.

(1) 9.1.02. ♂. Iris hazel ; legs black ; bill yellow and black. In the stomach, seeds of sedges.

The Yellow-billed Duck is not common at St. Johns ; it is usually seen in pairs.

195. ANAS SPARSA Smith ; S. & L. p. 756.

(1) 26.12.01. ♂. Iris dark yellow ; legs yellow, webs black ; bill with the lower mandible pale yellow, the upper pale blue marked with black. In the stomach, seeds of sedges.

(2) 29.3.02. ♀.

This Duck is plentiful during the summer months, but seems to be absent in the winter ; it does not often breed here. The large lizards (*Varanus*) which swarm in the rivers are said to destroy many of the eggs and young of our water-fowl.

196. *PECILONETTA ERYTHORHYNCHA (Gm.) ; S. & L. p. 754.

Rare at St. Johns, but fairly plentiful about eight miles south.

197. PODICIPES CAPENSIS Licht.

Podiceps minor S. & L. p. 787.

(1) 22.9.02. Iris yellowish brown ; legs greenish black ; bill pinkish black, lower mandible yellowish below.

- (2) 18.10.02. Iris hazel; bill with the upper mandible black, the sides yellowish, the lower mandible yellowish, the gape greenish blue.

This Grebe is not plentiful. It is found in still water and on ponds, and is very shy.

198. SPHENISCUS DEMERSUS (Linn.); S. & L. p. 789.

- (1) 24.7.02. Iris dark brown; bill black, marked with pink; legs dull black, variegated with pink.

I kept a specimen of this Penguin alive for some time, and observed that the skin round the eye and at the base of the bill varied very much in colour, being sometimes pink and sometimes almost bright blue. The Penguin is rare at St. Johns, but is occasionally washed up dead after storms. It is said to breed at the mouth of the Kei River.

XIII.—*The Birds of the Island of South Trinidad.* From the Journal of EDWARD WILSON, M.B., Surgeon and Zoologist to the National Antarctic Expedition.

[THIS extract from Dr. Wilson's journal, together with Dr. Bowdler Sharpe's report on the specimens of birds obtained during the visit of the 'Discovery' to South Trinidad on Sept. 13th, 1901, was prepared in order to be read at the Meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on February 4th, 1902. But neither journal nor report could be read on that occasion, owing to press of time, and they have now been handed over to the Editors of 'The Ibis' for publication.]

A very interesting narrative prepared by Dr. George Murray, F.R.S., of the adventures met with by the landing-party on South Trinidad has already appeared in the 'Geographical Journal' (vol. xix. pp. 423), together with his general remarks on the island; and we have to thank the President and Council of the R. G. S. for their kind permission to use one of the text-figures (text-fig. 1, p. 209) employed on that occasion.—EDD.]

ON September 13th, 1901, before there was sufficient light to be certain that the sun was rising, the outline of the